Note dated 6th April 1925, from the Inspector of Office Systems re *introduction of Vernacular form of correspondence in Offices subordinate to the Deputy Commissioner.*

One of the measures suggested for simplifying work in the District and Subordinate Revenue Offices is the larger use of Vernacular form of correspondence between the said offices. This arrangement will also satisfy the legitimate desire of the Mysore public, expressed both in the Representative Assembly and in the Legislative Council and be in accordance with the policy of Government as expressed in their reply to the representation. Already a beginning has been made in the Education Department and Government have directed in Government Order No. E. 5076 -Edn. 146-24-2, dated 16th February 1925, that the Lower Inspectorate should conduct correspondence in Kannada. The scheme is more easily adaptable to subordinate Revenue Offices.

2. In the past, the medium of correspondence between the District Office and the subordinate offices was largely in Kannada and the English mode of correspondence was, I believe, confined to D. O. letters, special communications and reports. Instructions to the Taluk Offices in accordance with orders received from the superior officers were conveyed in Kannada *Hukums*. In recent years, as knowledge of English has spread, correspondence in that language is gradually supplanting Kannada and the system has invaded the Sheikdar's Office also. I noticed in a Sheikdar's *dafter*, a number of English orders received from the District and Sub-Division Offices, sent to him for *needful action* by the Taluk Amildar. The advent of the typewriter as a labour-saving machine is to a large extent responsible for the present practice of transmitting in *toto*, typed copies of the orders received from the higher office to the lower office. This mechanical transmission has got serious draw-backs. As the standard of literacy in English is very poor among the lower subordinates of the Revenue Department, there is the risk of the English orders and communications not being properly understood by many a taluk official, with his imperfect knowledge of the English language. If the present system has to continue, the Taluk Offices, too will have to be manned by people possessing a good knowledge of English. And as a corrollary, the pay and prospects of the staff will have to be materially improved to keep them contented. In fact, this aspect of the case has been adverted to by the Revenue Commissioner in the Land Revenue Administration Report for 1923-24, who has quoted the opinion of the Deputy Commissioner, Tumkur District, that the improvement of work in the Taluk Office is possible only by employing English knowing hands. But to recognise this will vitiate the policy of introducing Kannada correspondence in the offices in the State and multiply work in Taluk Offices.

3. Again, an impression is gaining ground that all communications on important and special subjects had better be in English, as Officers opening tappals confine their attention to English correspondence only. The public are also responsible for the currency of the impression, in that they prefer to present their petitions in English language, to secure a fair chance of its being read *personally* by the Officers to whom they are addressed. The old *Sulavani* system which, with all its draw-backs, facilitated quick disposal, has been replaced by elaborate noting on vernacular records and the inevitable tendency has been to issue orders in English even Vernacular records. The bulk of the correspondence between the District and Subordinate Revenue Offices originates in Kannada and there can be no doubt that work will, to a large extent, be simplified and disposal expedited in the District and Subordinate Offices, if the presiding officers make up their mind to handle Vernacular Records connected with a case, without insisting on the preparation of elaborate notes. With the greater use of Kannada in Offices, the responsible officials will think and write in that language, the duplication of work involved in the preparation of drafts in all ordinary and routine cases will be avoided and the recording work minimised. The loss of Vernacular Records, reports of the occurrence of which have rather been made frequently of late should be guarded against, as far as possible, and the Current Registers which replace the old "From and To" Registers under the new arrangement introduced into the Taluks also should be accurately and intelligently written up. These registers may be maintained in Kannada as in the Survey Department. During my study of the records and registers in the Bangalore District and Taluk Offices, I have kept this matter in view and I have discussed it with the Deputy Commissioner Mr. Venkoba Rao.

4. To bring about the desired end, the following suggestions are offered :—

(1) The Standing Orders regarding the opening of tappal both English and Kannada by the presiding officers themselves, when they are at Headquarters should be strictly observed.

(2) All reports from the Taluk Offices including Amildar's diary should as far as possible be in Kannada.

(3) The D. C. & B. and other returns to be sent by the Taluk Office should be printed in Kannada.

(4) The correspondence between the Sheikdars and the Amildars should invariably be in Kannada.

(5) Correspondence and registering including the preparation of returns should be in Kannada in Taluk Offices, except in the following cases in which English may be used :—

Administration Reports (Annual); Judicial decisions, Reports and Returns required by specific orders to be submitted in English, *e.g.*, Financial returns.

(6) *In Sub-Division Office.*—All correspondence with Taluk Offices to be in Kannada, except in the following cases :—

Reviews on reports and returns, copies of which have to be sent to higher offices, correspondence by means of sending copies of communications sent to higher officers, Jamabandy and Administration Reports, and Judicial decisions.

Correspondence with District Office to be in Kannada, in cases originating in the Taluk in Kannada.

(7) *District Office.*—Correspondence with subordinate Revenue Offices to be in Kannada as far as possible. Reviews on reports and returns, copies of which have to be sent to higher offices may be in English as at present.

(8) Registering work in the Sub-Division and District Offices to be in English as heretofore.

5. It is not possible to exhaustively define the classes of cases in which Kannada or English should be used as the medium of correspondence and much should be left to the Head of the Office to adjust the work in accordance with the declared policy so as to economise work and labour.

REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Fruit Cultivation in the Yemmedoddi Amrut Mahal Kaval.

READ—

Letter No. 62, dated 8th August 1924, from the Secretary, Board of Agriculture, forwarding extracts from the proceedings of the meeting of the reconstituted Board of Agriculture held on the 26th July 1924, regarding the development of fruit culture in the Yemmedoddi Amrut Mahal Kaval and requesting :—

(1) that the Deputy Commissioner, Kadur, may be authorised to take delivery of a plot of 200 acres in the said kaval, best suited for fruit cultivation for giving it out in convenient blocks for fruit cultivation ; and

(2) that the Superintendent, Government Gardens, may be authorised to open a Government Experimental Farm for fruit cultivation on about 25 acres of the land at an initial cost of Rs. 5,000.

2. Correspondence ending with letter No. 154, dated 3rd September 1924, from the Secretary, Board of Agriculture, forwarding the sketch showing the portion of the Yemmedoddi Kaval (marked A B C D in red ink) selected for fruit cultivation.

3. Unofficial note, dated 16th July 1925, of the Director of Agriculture in the matter.

ORDER NO. I. C. 1083-6—A. & E. 265-23-10, DATED 15TH AUGUST 1925.

A plot of 200 acres out of the Yemmedoddi Amrut Mahal Kaval (Marked A B C D in red ink in the sketch forwarded) has been selected after inspection, by the officers of the Revenue and Agricultural Departments, as being well suited for fruit cultivation and the Board of Agriculture have recommended to Government, the surrender of the plot to the Revenue Department, with a view to make it available to intending purchasers, for fruit cultivation. The Amrut Mahal Superintendent is agreeable to surrender the plot in question to the Revenue Department.

2. Government are pleased to sanction the surrender to the Revenue Department of the said plot of 200 acres out of the Yemmedoddi Amrut Mahal Kaval. The Deputy Commissioner, Kadur, is requested to take necessary steps for disposing of the land for fruit cultivation, subject to the following conditions :—

(1) The plot may be divided into blocks, each not exceeding ten acres in extent, after reserving a block of 25 acres for opening a Government Experimental Orchard later on, if necessary as proposed by the Director of Agriculture.

(2) The availability of the land for fruit cultivation should be advertised by the Deputy Commissioner and blocks should be granted for upset price only after a sufficient time has elapsed. Should there be only one applicant for a block, the land may be given to him for an upset price to be fixed by the Deputy Commissioner on the basis of the usual selling prices of similar land in the locality; if there are more applicants than one for the same block, it should be sold in auction.

(3) Only fruit trees should be grown and no other crops should be permitted in the area, except on about 2 acres ($\frac{1}{5}$th of the block) which may be used for growing fodder for cattle.

(4) Two acres out of the plot should be planted each year until at least eight acres out of the ten are planted with fruit trees, within 4 years.

(5) The land will be assessed at the usual garden rates in the locality, half the rates of assessment being levied for a period of five years.

(6) Infringement of any of the conditions will render the land liable to resumption.

3. As regards the second proposal made by the Board of Agriculture, Government are not in favour of starting for the present a Government Experimental Farm for fruit cultivation. An extent of 5 acres selected by the Director of Agriculture should, however, be reserved for the purpose, so that there may be no difficulty to secure similar land if the establishment of a farm is hereafter found to be necessary.

K. V. ANANTARAMAN,
Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department.